



FASHION INTERNATIONAL

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE INTERNATIONAL FASHION WORLD

MARCH/APRIL 1988

FALL '88: MILAN, LONDON, PARIS

MILAN

Faced with a weakened dollar, rising costs and no clear fashion direction, the Milanese designers opted for a reassuring mix of sense and sensuality, giving a rounded edge to sharp tailoring and the return of trousers as high fashion. Pants come in every shape and style--wide and full, classically straight-legged, cropped and lean. Hemlines are generally above the knee; however, some designers are experimenting with other lengths. Skirts are either tight, round as a bell, short and swingy or stop just short of the ankle and dirndl. Jackets are never oversized; usually collarless, short and cropped. As the body conscious silhouette wanes, clothes in layers that combine different colors and fabric textures provide new interest. Velvet, both printed and plain, adds richness to wool and tweed. In the forecast as well - a blizzard of fur and fur trims - mostly glamorous fakes.

Colors: Dusty tones of peach, teal, seafoam; grey, red, plum, purple, maroon, pale and hot pink, taupe, mushroom, bordeaux, bottle green, champagne, white and black.

DESIGNER FOCUS:

GIORGIO ARMANI: Short hemlines, gently shaped and perfectly proportioned clothes. Newest-- jackets-- cropped or fitted to the waist and flaring out in a rippled peplum, shown with fluid trousers or short skirts. Collars are often eliminated on the

MILAN-- continued

jackets which dip into soft cowls at the neckline and close with loops or Origami ruffles. Many jackets team with matching high neck vests, one shorter than the other, worn under large knitted cashmere shawls with pleated edges and sometimes draped over one shoulder. An alternative to the tweed and plaids are floral patterned jackets. Coats range from classic belted long trenches with quilted linings to swinging tent shapes with kimono sleeves. For evening-- flower appliqued curvy jackets over velvet, ankle length skirts; bare velvet tops with brocade skirts; Indian inspired brilliant iridescent taffetas; gold embroidered velvets and quilted paisleys. Some bouffant overskirts are tied over thinly pleated pants.

BYBLOS: Short shapely jackets over rounded skirts or fluid pants; coats that are Russian and Turkish inspired-- big and smocked, long and belted, shapes that indent at the waist and are rounded over the hip; dresses are short and belted with flared skirts; late-day strapless and off-the-shoulder dresses with fake fur trims. Many fabric mixes.

GIANFRANCO FERRE: A number of trousers-- lean and straight legged; cropped or lean long jackets over pants or short skirts; slim, high-waisted, and flared, or full and belted coats, many with fur trims; slim and body skimming dresses or coat dresses, and a few chemises; white shirts with men's collars and cuffs; evening lace touches as well as elaborately embroidered, jeweled, appliqued and fur trimmed suits.

GENNY: VERSACE-- classic and clean. Waist cropped button-up jackets with wrapped cummerbunds and high waisted trousers; redingote jackets-- some jackets are shown over vests; coats-- wrapped and belted at mid calf length; for evening, strapless sheaths with bolero jackets, dresses fitted to the waist with exaggerated flared or side panel skirts.

ROMEO GIGLI: Long sweaters fall from narrow shoulders and wrap under the hips; snug jersey wrap-around and cape shape blouses with men's style collars; single sleeve knitted dresses; jackets with softly folded collars; slim pants; coats with low waists and full skirts or gathered and back belted.

MARIUCCIA MANDELLI FOR KRIZIA: Superb jackets, long and shapely with rounded shoulders or cropped styles, straight cut or nipped at the waist. Trousers fit smoothly across the hips and widen toward the ankles. There are also high-waisted Bermuda shorts. Coats are oval in shape and full. Dresses-- curvy with rounded skirts. Short marabou or puckered satin skirts with strapless bodices and bubble-shaped mini skirts with floral printed satin blouses are evening fare.



GIORGIO ARMANI

LONDON

More realistic about the international fashion markets' needs and wants, British designers feature classic looks-- tailored shapes, longer skirts, wider trousers, riding jackets, redingotes, tweeds, tartans and deep jewel colors. For Autumn/Winter, it is avant-garde to be establishment.

DESIGNER FOCUS:

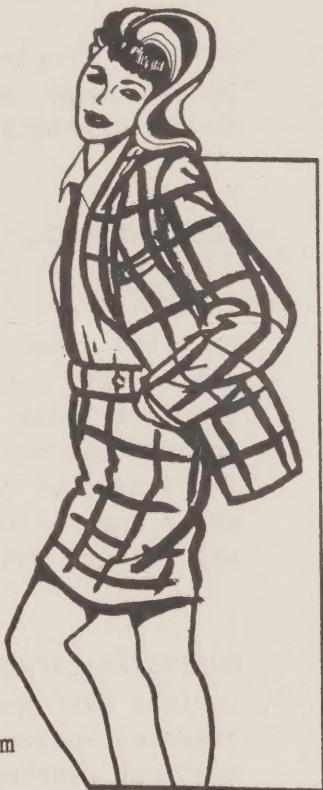
JOHN GALLIANO: Emerging as one of London's most influential designers, his colors-- faded green, purple, burgundy and brown are inspired by the works of Modigliani. The collection centers around high-waisted pants, walking shorts, and tailored jumpsuits of all types. His Bermuda length jumpsuits are double-breasted, notch lapeled and tabbed at the waist, resembling a suit jacket that grew. The longer trouser suits have wide palazzo pants with black patch pockets. Chiffon blouses with capes and drapes across the bodice are also paired with trousers. Dresses, cut like a slip from a jigsaw of pattern pieces, fall to the ankle. Jackets are asymmetrically shaped; and coats feature one shoulder stoles that appear like capes.

KATHERINE HAMNETT: A leaning toward Oscar Wilde-- young men in foppish frock or waistcoats, paired with velvet pants, zippered at ankles; or jodphurs that lace up at the knee. Young women don fitted riding jackets, ruffled, puffed-sleeve blouses, and long full high-waisted skirts. Some of the best pieces here are coats-- leather collared balmacaans with red tartan linings; riding coats with black velvet collars; and cavalry trenches tightly belted at the waist.

ANOUSKA HEMPEL: Her collection is classic, elegant and expensive. Colors here are mainly black, navy and muted shades. For day, she shows short rounded skirts and fur trimmed coats and suits. Most outstanding are long evening dresses in lace, damask and velvet.

JEAN MUIR: A colorful and lively collection. The most dramatic garments are printed felt coats and jackets in vivid colors. The same brilliant colors are used in sweaters, short dresses and peplumed suits. Late-day suits and dresses are decorated with gold or silver leather appliques or swirling sequin patterns.

VIVIENNE WESTWOOD: Miss Marple tailored suits in wool plaid with slim skirts, pushed out in front by a ruffle of white net; leather jerkins



VIVIENNE WESTWOOD

LONDON-- continued

button on to fabric sleeves, made like a medieval armor; and black velvet waistcoats with short bustle skirts.

PARIS

The question of whether women really want to forsake sensible dressing in favor of giddy girlishness was answered by the French collections. Christian Lacroix aside, designers focused on wearable apparel-- sweeping away gimmicks, frivolity and theatrical costumes. Neither Milan nor London seriously challenge the supremacy of Paris.

Trends: Pants - in all varieties - slim stirrup, straight, cuffed, jodphur, high-waisted, with the newest being skirt pants; wide and fluid, pleated, gathered, tucked for both day and evening. Also reappearing, pantsuits and jumpsuits. Dresses are long and lean with white collars and cuffs, jumpers with white shirts, the chemise, A-line and trapeze. Jacket shapes-- trapeze, cropped, short and fitted, bell-shaped with high standing collars, long and cut smaller across the shoulder, sweater, and bolero. Coats range from round shoulders and wide stand-up or fold-down collars, swingy 3/4 coats, A-line, trapeze, long and straight, redingotes, waist nipped with rounded hips, to capes and capecoats. After dark-- the evening suit.

Details: Interest at the top; natural shoulders, high cut arm-holes, U and off-the-shoulder necklines, high-rise shoulder spanning collars that frame the face, button-on stoles, jackets criss-crossing over the shoulder, scarfs attached to blouses, real or fake furs, often used as trims on jackets, coats and dresses, for day and evening.

Colors: Purple, burgundy, plum, wine, brown, grey, all shades of green, russet, burnt orange, golden yellows, fuchsia, red, winter navy and black - also dusty mid-tones, sherbets and pales.

DESIGNER FOCUS:

CHANEL: Karl Lagerfeld banishes ruffles and flourishes. Short surplice wraps, easy straight, and long, waist-nipped jackets paired with long and narrow or pleated skirts, or full-cut fluid trousers; long tweed dirndl skirts; long bi-color sweaters; trapeze and boxy car coats and capes with tweed insets. For evening, ivory sweater jackets over tailored pleated shirtwaist dresses, floaty skirt pants with frilly blouses, black suits with Edelweiss and violet embroidery, and long billowing skirts with high-waisted tops.

CHRISTIAN LACROIX: Spirited and ethnic -- day suits with high waisted bodices over short, easy skirts; fitted caracos, boleros and double-breasted spencers; rounded A-line, short swing, bell shaped, flat and sunburst pleated skirts and 60's inspired mini, tasseled knit skirts;



CHANEL BY KARL LAGERFELD

PARIS-- continued

slim coat dresses or body-skimming jerseys and trapezes; fitted or flared coats with round shoulders, wide stand-up or fold-down collars and smocked waists; patchwork tunics over leggings and embroidered caracos. For evening-- crisp blouses with oversize collars and sleeves, teamed with skirt pants; skin-tight shifts in stretch velvet; chemises with asymmetric hems and collars; peasant dresses with pleated skirts; short black dresses with gold embroidered aprons; floral printed satin dresses with jeweled boleros.



CHRISTIAN LACROIX

GIVENCHY: Classics with just the right amount of pizzazz-- great knits in cashmere, jacquard or velvet and silk chenille - open coats, cardigans, ponchos; classic masculine suits with fitted shoulders; or broad shouldered, fitted-waist short jackets paired with flared skirts; dresses with large rolled collars that drape the shoulder; some are bordered with black or silver fox; straight or flared jerseys with "officer's" collars and suede belts; knit sweaters often paired with trousers. For evening--dressy suits, satin skirts and wool jackets re-embroidered with sequins or quilted velvet jackets with colored stones or appliques of contrasting velvet; short dresses in lace or satin with ribbon applique on decollete, sleeves and skirt; brightly colored, sheaths in heavy satin crepe; large skirts of tulle point d'esprit re-embroidered with sequins.

MONTANA: Long and easy-- full and high-waisted pants, skirt pants and slim stirrup; short, bell shaped jackets with high standing collars, rippled at the waist peplums; boleros, blousons with knit backs, flared duffles, long cross-over and slim jackets with attached wrapped scarf necklines; long and softly pleated skirts shown with wrapped shoulders or pointed blouse collars. For evening-- black pantsuits with satin details; shaved mink boleros; vests with rolled scroll collars, lapels and peplums, over turtlenecks and trousers; stoles and flared jackets.

ST. LAURENT: Back on track-- trim and short suits with Braque-inspired color blocked jackets over slim skirts and trousers, suede suits with laced seams or leaf appliques; asymmetric button jackets

PARIS-- continued

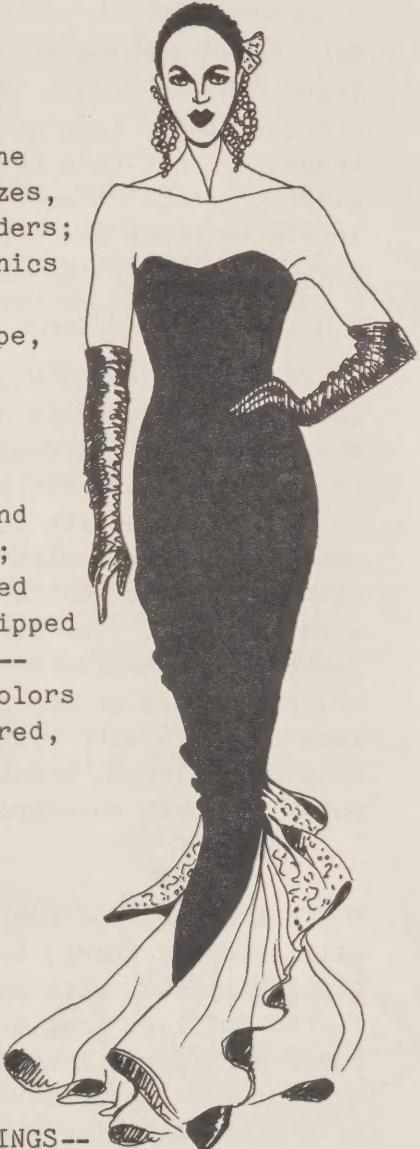
with wide notched lapels; calf jodphurs, skirt pants teamed with little cardigan sweaters; short wrap and skinny leather skirts; jersey tunics. For evening-- "Le Smoking" with pants or skirts; black velvet dresses with crystal drop trims; dinner suits with jackets of irregular color block shapes in combinations of taffeta, velvet and satin; short dresses with corselet tops or off-the-shoulder dresses with mini poufs of feathers or asymmetric taffeta skirts; floor length full skirts with long capes and satin blouses.

UNGARO: The silhouette has loosened up-- full skirts with fitted jackets; full and pleated pants worn with vests, blouses, cropped jackets, or sheer lace tops; easy chemises that fit snugly near the hem, princess style with indented waists and flared skirts; trapezes, full cuts that fall into soft folds and swing away from the shoulders; full 3/4 coats and capes that are gathered from the shoulders; tunics with velvet yokes. Colors are lilac, purple, cassis, pale pink, strawberry, wine, pumpkin, coral, saffron, kelly green, lime, taupe, chestnut, charcoal, pale grey and black.

VALENTINO: Obvious lux-- suits are easy and slim, waist-cropped, body-hugging with weskit details or long peplum jackets for day and evening. The day suits are decorated with fluted edges or ribbons; and those for evening sport feathers and sequins. Also hand-painted Aubusson carpet-inspired shearling trimmed suits. Boxy or waist-nipped round hip coats; hip sashed skirts and knit dresses. For evening-- patterned sweaters and beaded sequin and lace evening dresses. Colors are beige, camel, brown, grey, dusty rose, light blue, hot pink, red, kelly green, black and white.

FUTURE DATES: SPRING/SUMMER SHOWINGS

MILAN: OCTOBER 2-6
LONDON: OCTOBER 7-11
PARIS: OCTOBER 12-19



UNGARO EVENINGS--
STILL SENSUAL SOPHISTICATION

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